

REMARKS

In response to the Advisory Action, claims 1, 8, 10, 26, 31, 33, and 60 have been amended and claims 1, 2, 5-17, 19-21, 26, 28, 29, 31, 33, 34, 36, 38-40, 42-46, 48, 50, 52-56, and 60 are presented for reconsideration.

The Office noted that the Amendment after Final filed February 23, 2005, would precipitate new rejections for several claims. Although the Office did not specify the grounds for these rejections, it seems that they would all be under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

First, the Office asserted that there is no antecedent basis for the term “said nucleotide sequence” in claim 8. Applicants have amended this term to be “said polynucleotide,” which has antecedent basis.

Second, the Office asserted that it is unclear if “which” referred to the expression system or the polypeptide in claim 10. Applicants have amended claim 10 to recite “wherein said polypeptide comprises” to clearly indicate that the clause modifies the polypeptides recited in the claim and not the expression system.

The Office also asserted that there was no antecedent basis for the term “the antagonist” in claims 31 and 33. Applicants have now amended claims 31 and 33 so that step (a) recites “contacting a cell . . . with an agonist and a *potential antagonist*” and step (b) recites “determining whether the signal generated by said agonist in the cell is diminished in the presence of *the potential antagonist*.” Thus, the term “antagonist” has antecedent support in both claims. Furthermore, the term “potential antagonist” is supported on page 34 of the specification.

Finally, the Office noted that claim 60 depended on cancelled claim 18. As amended, claim 60 now depends on pending claim 17.

In addition, Applicants have made minor amendments to claims 1 and 26 to correct typographical errors.

Applicants respectfully request that both this Supplemental Amendment After Final and the previous Amendment After Final, both submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 be entered and that the pending claims be allowed, because all rejections asserted by the Office have been addressed by the claim amendments presented in both.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: March 16, 2005

By: 
Deborah Katz
Reg. No. 51,863
Phone: (202) 408-4382
FAX: (202) 408-4400
E-mail: deborah.katz@finnegan.com